

Having been a consumer and creator of broadcast media for decades, I am convinced that the FCC's up-coming June 2, 2003 vote as to whether media ownership rules should be relaxed is one of the most pivotal moments in our nation's history. There can be no doubt that access to varied and independent media is a cornerstone of our democracy, and that any move to allow further consolidation of ownership would be severely detrimental to our access to news, information, and opinions. I have seen it happen here in Madison, Wisconsin, as Clear Channel now owns the majority of local commercial radio stations, and the quality and diversity of broadcast content has dropped dramatically. We cannot let this happen across other media as well. For the sake of a healthy functioning democracy, we must not further relax restrictions on media ownership.